

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REQUESTED FILING OF RULE 1.53(B)  
CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION BASED ON  
THE FOLLOWING PENDING PRIOR PATENT APPLICATION:

In re Application of: Alfred S. Despres III et al.  
Serial No.: 09/909,923  
Filing Date: 07/20/2001  
Title: MODULAR FEMORAL STEM COMPONENT FOR  
A HIP JOINT PROSTHESIS  
Group Art Unit: 3732  
Examiner: E. Robert  
Attorney's Docket No.: HAYES-1

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 3, please replace the current reference to related applications with the following new reference:

-- Reference To Pending Prior Patent Applications

*ENX*  
*2/4/05*  
This is a continuation of pending prior U.S. Patent <sup>U.S. Pat. No. 6,682,568,</sup> Application Serial No. 09/909,923, filed 07/20/2001 by Alfred S. Despres III et al. for MODULAR FEMORAL STEM COMPONENT FOR A HIP JOINT PROSTHESIS which in turn claims benefit of (1) prior U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/219,955, filed 07/20/00 by Alfred S. Despres III et al. for MODULAR ORTHOPEDIC CONNECTION (Attorney's Docket No. HAYES-1 PROV); and (2) prior U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/219,963, filed 07/20/00 by Alfred S. Despres III et al. for FORCE COUPLE

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